" Winston Churchill once observed that the worth of a nation can be measured by the care it provides for its veterans. On this, our Veterans Day, I ask my fellow Californians to join me in saluting those courageous men and women who are California's "super citizens": the members of our Armed Forces and National Guard. It is their sacrifice and dedication which preserve and guarantee our precious freedoms and the security of our nation.

"Across our state, there will be many parades, commemorations, and ceremonies to honor our service members, but we must do much more than that. As Californians, we must commit ourselves to do all that we can to guarantee these brave men and women every benefit they have so richly earned. To complement our efforts, and the efforts of other fine organizations and individuals who are working for our veterans, I will be urging our state, county, and city governments to join in this effort. Together I am convinced we can make a difference and be there for those who were so gallantly there for us.

"So, to each of you who have, and are, serving, be it with the Navy, Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, or our own National Guard, my deepest gratitude for what you do. Words are not adequate to express how much you mean to all of us."

For more information on the Lt. Governor's work on veterans issues please contact Wade R. Sanders, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy and combat veteran at (916) 445-8994.